

REMARKS

In this response, claims 1-25 remain pending in the application. Reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested based upon the remarks below.

Claims 1-7, 11, 13-14, 16-17, and 20-25 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 and 5-11 of copending Application No. 10/541,252 in view of Kolev et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,125,283 B1). In response, a terminal disclaimer has been filed to overcome the provisional rejection based on the nonstatutory double patenting ground, as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, the rejection is now moot.

Claim 8 is provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of the copending Application No. 10/541,252 in view of Kolev et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,125,283 B1) and further in view of Lee et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,842,619). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 8 depends, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1, includes further important limitations, and is patentable over U.S. Application No. 10/541,252, Kolev, and Lee for at least the reason above with respect to claim 1, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 9-10 and 18-19 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 9 and 10 of the copending Application No. 10/541,252 in view of Kolev et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,125,283 B1) and further in view of Ling (U.S. Patent No. 5,412,686). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 9-10 and 18-19 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claims 1 and 11, include further important limitations, and are patentable over U.S. Application No. 10/541,252, Kolev, and Ling for at least the reason above with respect to claims 1 and 11, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 12 is provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of the copending Application No. 10/541,252 in view of Kolev et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,125,283 B1) and further in view of Thauvin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,360,109). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 12 depends, either directly or indirectly, from claim 11, includes further important limitations, and is patentable over U.S. Application No. 10/541,252, Kolev, and Thauvin for at least the reason above with respect to claim 11, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 15 is provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of the copending Application No. 10/541,252 in view of Kolev et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,125,283 B1) and further in view of Thauvin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,360,109) and still further in view of Abrol et al (U.S. Patent No. 7,068,669). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 15 depends, either directly or indirectly, from claim 11, includes further important limitations, and is patentable over U.S. Application No. 10/541,252, Kolev, Thauvin, and Abrol for at least the reason above with respect to claim 11, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

All rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 08-2025 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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